THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Government is not aware of any status report prepared by the DDA or Urban Art Commission on cleaning of Yamuna river. However, the Government of National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi had commissioned a study to Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) for preparation of a pre-feasibility report for construction of a parallel intercepting sewer along Yamuna in Delhi to prevent the discharge of untreated sewage into the river. A quick study report with an estimated cost of Rs. 800 crore was submitted by WAPCOS. The project was not found feasible as it envisaged to tackle only the point sources of pollution entering the river whereas as integrated action plan tackling all components responsible for pollution of Yamuna in Delhi is necessary for abatement of pollution in the river.

(c) and(d) Government launched the Yamuna Action Plan in April, 1993 for cleaning the river. The estimated cost of the Action Plan is Rs. 510 crore comprising Rs. 226 crore for Haryana, Rs. 250 crore for Uttar Pradesh, Rs. 20 crore for Delhi and the remaining Rs. 14 crore for miscellaneous items of work. In addition, under the extended phase of Yamuna Action Plan, a project at an estimated cost of Rs. 222 crore has been approved recently. The break up of the approved cost is: Haryana Rs. 22 crore, Delhi Rs. 167 crore, U.P. Rs. 29 crore and the remaining Rs. 4 crore for miscellaneous works. The action plan covers 21 towns of which 12 are in Haryana and 8 in Uttar Pradesh besides Delhi. All these works are targeted to be completed by March, 2002. In addition, the Government of NCT of Delhi is implementing projects for construction of additional sewage treatment plants, sewering of regularised unauthorised colonies and refurbishing of trunk sewerage system, under an integrated action plan to clean Yamuna.

The water quality of river Yamuna upstream of Delhi upto Palla is within prescribed standards. However, there has not been much improvement in the water quality in the river stretch along Delhi and downstream as the major works in Delhi are still to be completed. So far a Central assistance of Rs. 403.44 crore has been provided under the Yamuna Action Plan and an amount of Rs. 458.24 crore (including State's share) has been spent on this Action Plan.

Environmental damage by Numbul in Imphal

664. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Numbul river running in the midst of Imphal city, has greatly damaged the environment of the city area; and

(b) if so what steps are contemplated to improve the Numbul river for environmental protection of Imphal city?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The river Numbul is polluted from Hump bridge to Keisamthong for a distance of 1.5 kms and receives wastewater from the paona Bazar, Kakhulong Kabui and keisamthong Kaberi area. The river also receives wastewater from Thangal Bazar area through Naga Nullah. In the dry seasons extending from December to April, there is no regular flow in the river and as a result only wastewater flows in the river and thus the water is polluted.

(c) Low cost sanitation schemes and proper solid waste management are proposed by the Manipur State Pollution Control Board to contain the pollution in river Numbul.

Survey of environmental management practices

665. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first survey of environmental management practices by Indian corporates makes a dismal reading;

(b) if so, whether Tata Energy Research Institute wrote to 450 companies engaged in engineering mining and minerals, chemicals and pharmaceuticals service industry and others and only 48 of them responded;

(c) whether, with response from 48 corporates, the transparency and information sharing on such a sensitive issue is not up to desired level;

(d) if so, what are the major findings of the survey; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) According to a report, BT and the Tata Energy Research Institute jointly conducted a survey of environmental practices of 450 companies only. The evaluation focused on environmental management systems, and does not take into account physical environmental performance indicators such as emission levels, energy intensity and water consumption. No conclusive evaluation could be made from such a study.

(d) The major findings of the 47 companies include, that more than three-quarters had environmental practices in place, only four out of ten had formal